Reorientation of school curriculum to reduce burden on school children

*225. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are taking any steps to re-orient the school curriculum and courses of study to reduce burden on students; ane.

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of tie Sabha.

Statement

School curriculum to reduce burden on school children.

The National Policy on Education 1986 (N.P.E.) envisaged a national system of education based on a National Curricular Framework containing a common core along with other flexible components. The NPE also envisaged adoption of a child-centred approach to education in the context o'f the efforts to promote universal enrolment and universal retention of children up to 14 years of age and substantial improvement in the quality of education. The reorientation of content and process of education in the school stage which was initiated after the adoption of the NPE took into account many concerns including the question reducing the burden on school students.

2. Based on these guidelines, the National Council of Educational Re search and Training (NCERT) brought out in 1988 a National Curricular Framework for all stages of school education. The revised curriculum took into account the need for reduc tion of curriculum load, keeping in view the requirements for modernisa tion and relevance.

3. Keeping in view the guidelines in the National Curricular Framework, the NCERT revised the entire school syllabi and brought out revised textbooks for classes I to XII. Based on the National Curricular Framework and the NCERT syllabi/textbooks, the States and Union Territories have also undertaken measurs of curriculum •renewal and development of new textbooks for different stages of school education for their introduction into the school system in a phased manner.

4. The tendency on the part of the * ; schools particularly those in urban areas to recommend a large number i of books, has contributed to overburdening of students. This tendency was sought to be curbed by issuing instructions from the Ministry of Human Resource Development in October, 1989 to the Education Secretaries of all States aud Union Territories to ask the schools not to prescribe more books than which are actually required and to ensure that children carry only those textbooks| exercise books which are actually required on a particular day.

Trade with the USSR

*226. SHRI SHIVPRASAD CHAN-PURIA: Will the Minister of COM-MERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the Articles "Trade] Rupee payment Agreements—The Op tions for India" which appeared in The Economic Times of the 1st July, 1991 and "Economic Reforms/Rupee Trade Future Shock" also in The Economic Times of 15th July, 1991 re garding trade between India and USSR;

(b) if so, what is the value of imports from and exports to USSR envisaged in 1991 and the value of imports and exports actually contracted upto the 1st July, 1991; and

(c) by when the Trade Plan for 1992 would be signed and the import and export figures envisaged?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (IN-DEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The 1991 Trade Plan envisages Indian exports to USSR of Rs. 5081 Crores and imports of Rs. 4330 Crores. As per the provisional statistics of the DGCI & S during the period 1-1-91 to
30-4-1991 Indian exports to USSR amounted to Rs. 1505 Crores and Indian imports to Rs. 891 Crores. Data on
i value of contracts concluded toy parties in both countries is not maintained.

(c) Annual Trade Plans are concluded only towards the end of the calender year. It is as yet too early to fix export and import targets for 1992.

वायुयान द्वारा माल की ढुलाई में आने वाली समस्याओं के अध्ययन के लिये कृतिक बल

@*226-ए. सरदार जगजीत सिंह अरोड़ा :
डा० जिनेन्द्र कुमार जैन :

क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने वायुयान द्वारा माल की ढुलाई में आ रही समस्याओं का पता लगाने तथा उन्हें दूर करने के लिये अपनी सिफारिशें देने हेतु मई 1990 में एक कृतिक बल का गठन किया था ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या इस कृतिक बल ने अपना प्रतिवेदन दे दिया है ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है तथा सरकार ने उस संबंध में क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार) (श्री पी० चिदम्बरम्) : (क) जी नहीं । तथापि, ई ई सी बाजार में वर्ष 1992 में संभावित अनेक परिवर्तनों के फलस्वरूप पश्चिम यूरोप के साथ हमारे व्यापार की व्यावहारिक आवश्यकताओं की जांच करने के लिए मई, 1990 में एक बहुविषयक कृतिक बल गठित किया गया था ।

(ख) और (ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठते ।

@पूर्वत: तारांकित प्रश्न सं० 207, 29 जुलाई, 1991 से स्थानांतरित ।

Irregularities in tbe branches of the State Bank of Indore

*227. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of irregularities/ frauds committed in the branches of the State Bank of Indore, Siya Ganj and Cloth Market branch of Indore during the last three years, yearwise and branch-wise;

(b) the amount involved in each case and the action taken by management against officers/employees found guilty; and

(c) how much amount has been recovered till date and what is the present position of each case branchwise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c) Details of cases of irregularities/ frauds which took place at State Bank of Indore's Siya Ganj and